NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Regarding
Approval of Database Format Matching Street Addresses to Proper Taxing Jurisdiction(s) Pursuant to Section 119 of the Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act (PL 106-252)

The Multistate Tax Commission will conduct a public hearing to obtain comments from interested parties on the proposed database format to be adopted by the Multistate Tax Commission (MTC) at its annual meeting to be held in Madison, WI, July 31, 2002. A copy of the proposed database format and an explanation are attached. Section 119 of the Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act (MTSA). PL 106 –252, directs the Multistate Tax Commission and the Federation of Tax Administrators to approve a database format that matches street addresses, in standard U.S. Postal Service format to the proper taxing jurisdiction(s). Section 119 of the MTSA is attached to this notice.

All comments received during the hearing process will be included in the hearing officer's report that will be submitted to the MTC Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will read the report, with your submissions and comments, and then consider adopting the proposed database format using the appropriate procedures (see: MTC's Uniformity Recommendation Development Process, Step Seven at www.mtc.gov/uniform/9steps.htm.)

All interested parties are invited to participate in this public hearing. Parties wishing to make formal oral presentations are requested to notify the hearing officer at least two working days prior to the hearing date. Written comments are encouraged. They may be submitted at any time prior to, or, on the hearing date, or at a later date that may be announced at the close of the public hearing. Interested parties may also participate by telephone. Please contact the hearing officer for instructions regarding telephone participation.

The hearing officer for this matter is Elliott Dubin of the Multistate Tax Commission and the assistant hearing officer is Jonathan Lyon of the Federation of Tax Administrators. Please submit all questions, comments and correspondence to: Hearing Officer Elliott Dubin, Director of Policy Research, Multistate Tax Commission, 444 N. Capitol Street NW, Suite 425, Washington, DC 20001-1538. Phone: (202) 508-3871; FAX: (202) 624-8819; email: edubin@mtc.gov.

The hearing is scheduled for 1:30 P.M. May 21, 2002 in conference room 231 in the Hall of the States 444 N. Captol St. NW, Washington, DC 20001. To participate in the hearing by telephone, please dial 1 – 888 – 809 – 4012 access code 5083871.

Explanation of Database Format:

The first two fields indicate the effective dates of the database. The third, fourth, and fifth fields in the proposed database relate to the range of addresses of any street included in a specific taxing jurisdiction. A wireless service provider can send an inquiry to the database with a range of addresses rather than individual street addresses. The addresses are divided into even numbers and odd numbers because even numbers of a street address are on the opposite side of the street from the odd numbers. The boundary of a taxing jurisdiction can run down the middle of a street.

The sixth through thirteenth fields describe part of an address. For example, the address of the Multistate Tax Commission is 444 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 425, Washington, DC 20001-1538. In this address, "North" is field 6 (pre-directional address). The term "NW" is the post directional address. Suite 425 is a secondary address. The other parts of the secondary address allow for finer breakdowns of a high-rise building. Again, using the address of the MTC, there are two towers – North and South. In some cities, a boundary of a taxing jurisdiction could run down the middle of a building. Another example could include a garden apartment complex with a number of separate buildings. Boundaries of taxing jurisdictions could divide a property composed of separate buildings. Fields 14 through 16 end the address and should need no explanation.

Fields 17 through 20 are the Federal Information Processing System (FIPS) Code description of the address. The FIPS codes are U.S. Census Bureau definitions of geographic places in the United States. Each state, county, and subcounty unit of government is assigned a unique identifying number. Field 20 describes the type of place; e.g., city, town, or township.

Fields 21 and 22 describe a street address according to longitude and latitude for even greater certainty of location. Currently, the main use for such geographic information is for property tax assessment.

The proposed database format leaves space for an address to be located within a maximum of ten special taxing districts. Special taxing districts are created to perform a single function or a group of similar functions. The most widespread use of special taxing jurisdiction is the independent school district. The boundaries of these districts can be coterminous with a unit of general government, or the school district boundaries can cover a number of units of general government. Similarly, a unit of

general government such as a county can contain a number of independent school districts.

The main other types of special taxing jurisdictions include transportation districts, health and hospital districts, water supply districts, economic development districts, and public safety districts. Due to the limited purposes of each special district, it is not uncommon for a single street address to be situated within a number of these districts. If a state creates an electronic database matching street address with proper taxing jurisdictions; and, if there are a number of these special districts defined by the state, the state would label field 23 as "ST" as a state defined special district. Some states will contract with a private vendor to create this electronic database. In this instance the definition of the special district would be defined by the vendor, or "VD." For example, some private vendors will create their own special district for a specific range of addresses if those addresses are within the boundaries of overlapping single purpose special districts.

NO.	FIELD	Length	COMMENT
**Wireless Sourcing - March 8, 2002**
1	Beginning Effective Date	8	Date in CCYYMMDD format
2	Ending Effective Date	8	Date in CCYYMMDD format
3	Low Address Range	10	(If Record Type = PO Box, Box Range Listed)
4	High Address Range	10	(If Record Type = PO Box, Box Range Listed)
5	Odd/Even "Range" Indicator	1	
6	Street Pre-Directional Abbr.	2	Primary Address (Address Line 1)
7	Street - Name	20	Primary Address (Address Line 1)
8	Street - Suffix Abbr.	4	Primary Address (Address Line 1)
9	Street - Post Directional	2	Primary Address (Address Line 1)
10	Address Secondary Abbr.	4	Secondary Address (Address Line 2) if Highrise or Firm
11	Address Secondary (Low)	8	Secondary Address (Address Line 2) if Highrise or Firm
12	Address Secondary (High)	8	Secondary Address (Address Line 2) if Highrise or Firm
13	Address Secondary (Odd/Even)	1	Secondary Address (Address Line 2) if Highrise or Firm
14	City Name	28	
15	Zip Code	5	
16	Plus4	4	
17	FIPS State Code	2	
18	FIPS County Code	3	
19	FIPS Place (Municipality) Number	5	
20	FIPS Place Class Code	2	
21	Longitude Data	7	
22	Latitude Data	7	
23	Special Tax District Code Source (#1)	2	Could be "VD" for vendor defined or ST for State Defined
24	Special Tax District Code (#1)	5	This is the actual code from the source
25	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#1)	2	From X12 Data Element 1721
26	Special Tax District Code Source (#2)	2	
27	Special Tax District Code (#2)	5	
28	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#2)	2	
29	Special Tax District Code Source (#3)	2	
30	Special Tax District Code (#3)	5	
31	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#3)	2	
32	Special Tax District Code Source (#4)	2	
33	Special Tax District Code (#4)	5	
34	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#4)	2	
35	Special Tax District Code Source (#5)	2	

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NO.	FIELD	Length	COMMENT
36	Special Tax District Code (#5)	5	
37	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#5)	2	
38	Special Tax District Code Source (#6)	2	
39	Special Tax District Code (#6)	5	
40	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#6)	2	
41	Special Tax District Code Source (#7)	2	
42	Special Tax District Code (#7)	5	
43	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#7)	2	
44	Special Tax District Code Source (#8)	2	
45	Special Tax District Code (#8)	5	
46	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#8)	2	
47	Special Tax District Code Source (#9)	2	
48	Special Tax District Code (#9)	5	
49	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#9)	2	
50	Special Tax District Code Source (#10)	2	
51	Special Tax District Code (#10)	5	
52	Type of Taxing Authority Code (#10)	2	
	Total Number of Positions	**239**	

Sec. 119. Electronic databases for nationwide standard numeric jurisdictional codes

(a) Electronic Database.--

``(1) Provision of database.--A State may provide an electronic database to a home service provider or, if a State does not provide such an electronic database to home service providers, then the designated database provider may provide an electronic database to a home service provider.

``(2) Format.--(A) Such electronic database, whether provided by the State or the designated database provider, shall be provided in a format approved by the American National Standards Institute's Accredited Standards Committee X12, that, allowing for de minimis deviations, designates for each street address in the State, including to the extent practicable, any multiple postal street addresses applicable to one street location, the appropriate taxing jurisdictions, and the appropriate code for each taxing jurisdiction, for each level of taxing jurisdiction, identified by one nationwide standard numeric code.

``(B) Such electronic database shall also provide the appropriate code for each street address with respect to political subdivisions which are not taxing jurisdictions when reasonably needed to determine the proper taxing jurisdiction.

``(C) The nationwide standard numeric codes shall contain the same number of numeric digits with each digit or combination of digits referring to the same level of taxing jurisdiction throughout the United States using a format similar to FIPS 55-3 or other appropriate standard approved by the Federation of Tax Administrators and the Multistate Tax Commission, or their successors. Each address shall be provided in standard postal format.

``(b) Notice; Updates.--A State or designated database provider that provides or maintains an electronic database described in subsection (a) shall provide notice of the availability of the then current electronic database, and any subsequent revisions thereof, by publication in the manner normally employed for the publication of informational tax, charge, or fee notices to taxpayers in such State.

``(c) User Held Harmless.--A home service provider using the data contained in an electronic database described in subsection (a) shall be held harmless from any tax, charge, or fee liability that otherwise would be due solely as a result of any error or omission in such database provided by a State or designated database provider. The home service provider shall reflect changes made to such database during a calendar quarter not later than 30 days after the end of such calendar quarter for each State that issues notice of the availability of an electronic database reflecting such changes under subsection (b).